

Diploma thesis “Reforms of European Labour Markets” deals with the various types of approach of the European Union Member States to regulation of labour market and to the related measures in the field of social security and assistance. Nearly all European states attempt to maintain and develop the concept of welfare state, which ideally should provide the population with the necessary level of security and social protection while simultaneously should not inhibit economic activity and progress by overly rigid regulation. The thesis describes the model categories into which the advanced European countries may be divided, particularly the liberal, Scandinavian and traditional approach. Each of them is associated with specific advantages and disadvantages, between which the Member States seek balance. The respective model types are illustrated using the example of six selected European countries. The subject of interest of the thesis also comprises the recent reform efforts in these Member States. The thesis deals with endeavours to coordinate national policies in the area of employment on the level of European Union institutions and examines both the set targets and actually achieved results in this field. From the methodological point of view, a synthesis of economic, juristic and other approaches to the subject matter is attempted, frequently comparing the respective model examples.